Amendment to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 14, line 2 with the following amended paragraph:

Figures 1A-1E ~~(SEQ ID NOS: 1 and 2)~~ show a representative nucleotide sequence and corresponding amino acid sequence for the La Crosse virus M segment, encoding the G1, G2 and NSm proteins. The sequence is from strain Human/78 (NCBI accession no. NC 004109). The boundaries between the proteins are shown by double slashes. The amino acid sequence for G2 (SEQ ID NO: 2) spans amino acid position 1 to amino acid position 299 (nucleotide positions 62-958); the amino acid sequence for NSm (SEQ ID NO: 17) runs from position 300 to about position 473 (nucleotide positions 959-1480) and includes the native leader for the G1 sequence. The amino acid sequence for G1 (SEQ ID NO: 18) includes amino acids 474-1441 (nucleotide positions 1481-4383).

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 14, line 11 with the following amended paragraph:

Figures 2A-2B ~~(SEQ ID NOS: 3 and 4)~~ show a representative nucleotide sequence (SEQ ID NO: 3) for the La Crosse virus S segment and shows the corresponding amino acid sequences for the nucleocapsid (N) protein (SEQ ID NO: 4) and the non-structural protein (NSs) (SEQ ID NO: 19) which occur in overlapping reading frames. The sequence is from strain Human/78 (NCBI accession no. NC 004110).

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 14, line 25 with the following paragraph:

Figures 5A-5O show representative forward (sense) and reverse (antisense) primers, as well as probes, derived from the M segment of the LACV genome, for use in diagnostic assays described herein. Forward primers are shown in Figures 5A-5E (SEQ ID NOS: 20-34); reverse primers for use with the forward primers are shown on the corresponding lines in Figures 5K-5O (SEQ ID NOS: 59-66); probes for use with the primer pairs shown in Figures 5A-5E and 5K-5O are shown on the corresponding lines in Figures 5F-5J (SEQ ID NOS: 35-58).

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 14, line 31 with the following paragraph:

Figures 6A-6O show representative forward (sense) and reverse (antisense) primers, as well as probes, derived from the S segment of the LACV genome, for use in diagnostic assays described herein. Forward primers are shown in Figures 6A-6E (SEQ ID NOS: 10, 67-90); reverse primers for use with the forward primers are shown on the corresponding lines in Figures 6K-6O (SEQ ID NOS: 11, 149-172); probes for use with the primer pairs shown in Figures 6A-6E and 6K-6O are shown on the corresponding lines in Figures 6F-6J (SEQ ID NOS: 12, 91-148).

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 15, line 3 with the following paragraph:

Figures 7A-7F show representative forward (sense) and reverse (antisense) primers, as well as probes, derived from the L segment of the LACV genome, for use in diagnostic assays described herein. Forward primers are shown in Figures 7A-7B (SEQ ID NOS: 13, 173-186); reverse primers for use with the forward primers are shown on the corresponding lines in Figures 7E-7F (SEQ ID NOS: 14, 187-191); probes for use with the primer pairs shown in Figures 7A-7B and 7E-7F are shown on the corresponding lines in Figures 7C-7D (SEQ ID NO: 15)

Please insert the attached "Sequence Listing" consisting of sheets 1/60 through 60/60, comprising of SEQ ID NOS: 1-191, into the application.

Attachment: Sequence Listing consisting of sheets numbered 1/60 through 60/60, and SEQ ID NOS: 1-191.